

Please add the following new claims:

--4. (New) An extinguisher for fighting fire and incipient explosions, comprising:

- a device configured to generate compressed gas;
- an extinguishing-agent vessel; and
- at least one rupture diaphragm sealing the extinguishing-agent vessel and including a rupture joint, the rupture diaphragm curved in a direction of the device configured to generate compressed gas, the diaphragm including one of a central, planar surface and a depression curved away from the device configured to generate compressed gas.

5. (New) The extinguisher according to claim 4, wherein the rupture diaphragm includes a circumferential rupture joint at an edge of the rupture diaphragm.

6. (New) The extinguisher according to claim 4, wherein the central, planar surface includes a circular boundary.

7. (New) The extinguisher according to claim 5, wherein the central, planar surface includes a circular boundary.--.

#### REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 3 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/DE00/02240. This Preliminary Amendment further cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 3 in the annex to the International Preliminary Examination Report and adds new claims 4 to 7. The new claims, inter alia, conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add any new matter to the application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3), the Substitute Specification (including the Abstract, but without the claims) contains no new matter. The amendments reflected in the Substitute Specification (including Abstract) are to conform the Specification and Abstract to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules or to correct informalities. As required by 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)(3)(iii) and 1.125(b)(2), a Marked Up Version of the Substitute Specification comparing the Specification of